



michoud messenger

Volume 4, Issue 1 | January 1, 2012

U.S. Coast Guard Honors Michoud for Deepwater Horizon Investigation

On Dec. 6, the U.S. Coast Guard hosted an awards ceremony to recognize significant contributions made to the Deepwater Horizon Investigation. A number of awards were presented to teams and individuals.

The Coast Guard Public Service Commendation was presented to NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility for their invaluable support to the government agencies involved in the investigation. The commendation, received by Director Steve Doering and Deputy Chief Operating Officer Malcolm Wood, recognized the personnel at Michoud for their professionalism, initiative and responsiveness in support of the joint investigation and vital assistance given to the Department of the Interior and the Department of Homeland Security. A picture depicting the Coast Guard 41 patrolling the waters during a Shuttle Launch also was presented to Michoud.

The Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation was presented to both the Deepwater Horizon Evidence Site Support Team and the Deepwater Horizon Interagency Evidence Control and Collection Team. A Coast Guard Certificate of Merit was presented to Coastal International Security for their distinguished service as Protective Service provider at Michoud.

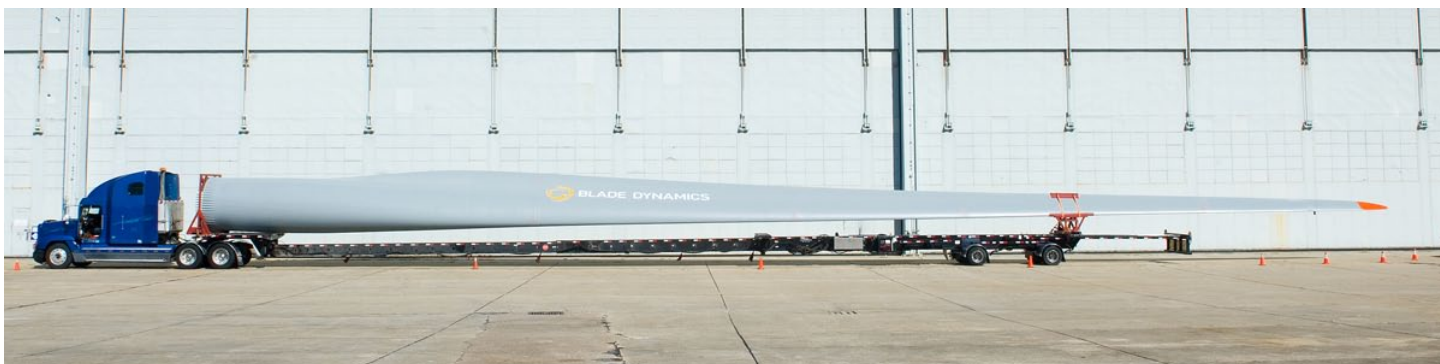
Individual Coast Guard Certificates of Merit were presented to NASA employee Rob Gravolet and Jacobs MSFOC employees Terry Fitzgerald, Dr. Gerald Pitalo, Sam Oliphant, Jane Kennedy, Ed Rocha, Corey Dillard and Chris Koch.

Most notable of the awards, the Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award, was bestowed to Steve Turner, NASA Michoud's Safety & Mission Assurance and Security Lead, for his outstanding leadership and enthusiastic devotion to ensuring the safety and security of the largest maritime forensic investigation in U.S. history.

After the awards were presented, a retirement ceremony was held honoring Capt. Suzanne Englebert's service to the Coast Guard. Capt. Englebert coordinated activities for the Coast Guard in support of the Deepwater Horizon Investigation.



Rear Adm. Kevin Cook, Deputy Commander, Atlantic Area, (pictured center) presents a painting to Steve Doering, Michoud Director, (pictured left) and Malcolm Wood, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, (pictured right) during a Dec. 6 awards ceremony honoring Deepwater Horizon investigation partners. Photo Credit: U.S.C.G. Petty Officer 3rd Class Casey J. Ranel



A Looooooooong Haul!

Michoud tenant Blade Dynamics recently rolled their first product off the assembly line in a ceremony Dec 1. The product's official name is Dynamic 49, but the locally recruited workforce affectionately dubbed it "Boudreaux." The high-performance, carbon fiber blade is 161 feet in length and is designed to be installed on a 2MW land-based turbine. Boudreaux currently is undergoing testing to validate the blade's design. At the event, Blade Dynamics Technical Director Paul Hayden expressed his appreciation to the manufacturing team. "Getting this blade built was less about building a blade and more about building a team," he said. For more information about Blade Dynamics please visit their website at www.bladedynamics.com.

Letters from Leadership

With 2011 completed, we wanted to take a minute and reflect on our accomplishments and thank the entire team for the tremendous effort that everyone has put forward to make MAF a success.

We have had many changes in 2011, from starting the year worried about the continued viability of MAF to ending the year with a new anchor NASA tenant -- the Space Launch System -- and the successful future of MAF clearly in sight. While our future budgets and funding continue to be assailed by program and agency challenges, we got a measure of stability with the passing and signing into law of NASA's 2012 budget.

Last year, we also saw many changes among our tenants. From the final flight of Atlantis on STS-135, which closed out a highly successful, 38-year production of External Tanks, to the transition to SLS as the new NASA anchor tenant, and the welcome addition of our new commercial tenants: Blade Dynamics, B-K Engineering and Long Branch Productions, we have had a very dynamic year. Next year promises to be equally exciting as we begin facility modifications for SLS and welcome new tenants to our site.

We also have seen many improvements to the site. The levee betterment project is complete and the redundant pumping station is ahead of schedule -- both of which will make Michoud much more capable of riding out hurricanes. We also saw the

transition from a fire brigade to onsite presence of the New Orleans Fire Department, which gives us dramatically improved fire protection and emergency response. We also have a new cafeteria vendor, The Compass Group, which has made our dining experience more pleasant. USDA even added a walking track, so we can walk off all of the great food that we enjoyed over the holidays.

We continue to enjoy our longstanding federal relationships with USDA and USCG, who recently expressed thanks to NASA and Jacobs for the outstanding support given during the Deep Water Horizon investigation with the recent awards ceremony (see full story, pg. 1).

As we enter the New Year, please take time to thank those around you, at work and at home. We couldn't do this job without the support of our family and friends. As we have said before, we are not a hardware-rich organization; we are a people-rich organization. We, as a team, are successful because of each of you. We are extraordinarily proud of the work you have done this past year, and you should be too. What we have accomplished so far is unique in the agency.

Again, we thank you for a job well done and we look forward to great and productive New Year.

*Steve Doering, Director
Robert Champion, Chief Operating Officer
Malcolm Wood, Deputy Chief Operating Officer*

MSFOC Honors Employees



James Dunn,
MSFOC
Employee of the
Year

Jacobs employees kicked off the holiday season Dec. 17 at the Hilton Riverside in Downtown New Orleans, the site chosen for the 2011 Awards Banquet. Employees enjoyed an assortment of hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and desserts. Everyone showcased their best dance moves in a dance contest to win a pair of Hornets tickets. More than 20 prizes were presented in the holiday raffle.

The night culminated in a presentation of awards for departmental Employees of the Year as well as MSFOC Supervisor and MSFOC Employee of the Year. Departmental Employees of the Year were Neisha Gueho, Vince Lombardy, Eva Washington, Cedric Larche, Stephen Francis, Judith James and Chloe Peters. Supervisor of the Year went to Leo Williams, and James Dunn was awarded Employee of the Year. All MSFOC employees were given a vote in each category; votes were tallied by the Employee Morale and Welfare Committee, which organized the Awards Ceremony.



Leo Williams,
MSFOC
Supervisor of the
Year

New Pump House reaches 50 Percent Mark

Construction on Michoud's new pump house is nearing the halfway point. In November, workers completed the second concrete pour of the main deck, and installed panels for the safe house and pump station, and the grate rake mounting structure. Workers also have begun to place equipment on the pump station main deck and safe house deck.

Michoud's new pump house will consist of four storm drainage pumps and the necessary structure to support and maintain them in the event of an emergency. Each pump is powered by an 875HP diesel engine and will be able to pump up to 62,500 gallons of water



per minute into the Michoud Canal. This capability is similar to that of the current, operational pump station, which proved effective in previous storms. In addition, the new pump house can be locally or remotely operated.

In the event that a ride-out crew needs to stay behind in order to maintain the pumps,

the new pump house will be outfitted with a safe house to protect those operators. The safe house will provide fire protection, wind protection, potable water, bathrooms, heat and air circulation and an alternative power generator. Currently, the project is ahead of schedule.

Holiday Safety Emphasized



At an All Hands Meeting Dec. 20, members of the Jacobs MSFOC Safety Department put a tremendous effort into making sure employees take the safety message home with them for the holidays. The Safety Department put on a skit which featured Santa Claus hosting the "Below Zero" talk show, during which he interviewed members of the safety department. When Santa asked each member what present they wanted, all responded with "a happy and safe holiday for everyone." The meeting stressed the Beyond Zero principle, which states that an accident-free, injury-free environment is achievable both at work and home.



Looking to get the word out to Michoud?

Let the MAF Media Services Team help you communicate with the rest of the facility.

Contact Chip H. at 504-257-0478 for detail



MAF Goes Greener!

As part of a new and improved MAF Goes Green (MGG) initiative, the Safety, Health and Environmental Office will reward those employees who submit an idea to improve Michoud's environmental consciousness, and will recognize individuals who have taken extra steps to ensure the success of the recycling programs already in place across the facility. If you submit an idea, or are seen going above and beyond when it comes to recycling, you could win an MGG hat, shirt or badge reel.

Types of initiatives that could win rewards include recommending an area where Michoud could

more effectively collect recyclable waste; identifying an area where Michoud could switch to a product with post-consumer recycled content; or simply making an effort to ensure that recycle bins are used regularly and correctly. You also could win a prize for recognizing an area where we are unnecessarily wasting energy, for reporting a water leak or for identifying an area where disposable materials could be replaced with a reusable alternative.

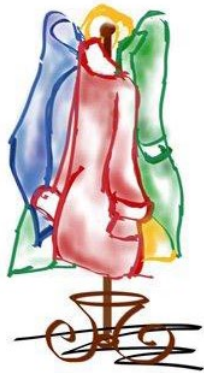
Remember, we currently recycle paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, electronics, batteries, scrap metal and



pallets. These items should never go in the trash!

If you would like to submit an idea, or participate in this campaign, contact Ann-Marie Ziegeler at 257-1605 or annmarie.ziegeler@nasa.gov.

Share the Warmth



December 15th – January 6th.

Coat drive benefiting homeless and displaced students attending Clark Sr. High School.

Collection Bin Locations

318 Entrance, 103-1-GI
103-1-L18, 350 Lobby
351 Cafeteria, CGX
320 SW/SE Landing

Contact Sam Senter,
samuel.a.senter@nasa.gov or Denise Sanders,
denise.l.sanders@nasa.gov for more information.



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Michoud Assembly Facility

13800 Old Gentilly Rd.
New Orleans, LA 70129
<http://maf.msfc.nasa.gov>

www.nasa.gov

michoudmessenger

Volume 4, Issue 1 | January 1, 2012

MAF COO: Robert Champion

Editors: Angela Storey and Chip Howat

Layout/Design: Shannon Jurado

Photographers: Steven Seipel and Eric Bordelon

